United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Michigan Field Office
Cooperating with Michigan Department of Agriculture

Michigan Crop Weather

MI-CW4409 November 2, 2009

Wet Weather Continues

Three days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending November 1, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation varied from 0.64 inch in the western Upper Peninsula to 2.94 inches in the central Lower Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 1 degree above normal in the western Upper Peninsula to 5 degrees above normal in the central, east central, and southeastern Lower Peninsula. Excessive rainfall persisted. The added moisture created soggy fields and stopped all field activities. Some growers have started harvesting corn as high-moisture, while others continued to wait for drier weather to help further dry down corn. Fall activities included harvesting sugarbeets, dry beans, and apples, hauling manure, and preparing equipment for winter storage.

Field Crops

Rains continued this week and made any fieldwork difficult. Many farmers hoped for drier weather to aid in the dry down of crops and to dry out severely saturated soils. **Corn** moisture remained high. Some growers experienced high drying costs. Harvest proved to be difficult due to mold emergence on tips of corn ears. A reporter in the southeast stated, "Some were being turned away (from elevators) and said to dump it out on the field, total loss." Corn silage harvest was nearly complete. **Soybean** harvest continued. In the central region, some fields were plowed under. **Wheat** planting continued as conditions permitted and germination was slow. Bags of wheat seed were available; however, many growers were unsure whether to plant this late in the season. **Sugarbeet** harvest paused for the time being. According to a producer in the Thumb, "A dry week is needed to finish our harvest." **Dry bean** harvest neared completion.

Soil moisture for week ending 11/01/09

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
Topsoil	0	1	42	57
Subsoil	0	5	65	30

Crop condition for week ending 11/01/09

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
Corn	5	14	29	39	13
Pasture	4	19	33	33	11
Winter Wheat	1	3	36	47	13

Fruit

Harvest of late **apple** varieties continued in a few orchards. A large quantity will not be picked due to the size of the crop and the loss of processing markets. **Grape** harvest was completed. Fall clean-up activities began in orchards and vineyards as weather allowed. This will be the final fruit summary for the 2009 season.

Vegetables

Vegetable harvest is complete for the 2009 season. Across the State, growers have focused on removing plastic and stakes from their fields, performing tillage operations, planting winter cover crops as weather conditions allowed, and preparing equipment for winter storage. This will be the final vegetable summary for the 2009 season.

Crop progress for week ending 11/01/09

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
All hay, fourth cutting	70	61	70	80
Apples, harvested	78	72	95	95
Corn, mature	87	81	100	100
Corn, harvested	10	6	50	56
Dry beans, harvested	96	89	99	99
Potatoes, harvested	95	91	97	95
Soybeans, harvested	59	51	93	82
Sugarbeets, harvested	68	38	70	65
Winter wheat, planted	81	73	98	95
Winter wheat, emerged	45	34	69	75

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Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 11/01/09 [1]

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days [2]			Precipitation					
											Normal	
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2009	2008	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	63	28		1,866	2,008		0.55	2.64	4.17	18.81		
Marquette	59	30		1,713	1,878		0.55	2.64	4.17	20.86		
Stephenson	58	29		2,125	2,353		0.74	2.97	4.98	21.81		
Western UP	63	25	1	1,848	1,966	2,037	0.64	2.58	4.19	19.77	22.61	2.54
Cornell	59	31		1,951	2,207		1.02	3.09	5.01	19.00		
Sault St Marie	62	36		1,738	1,918		2.32	4.27	5.70	20.32		
Eastern UP	62	29	2	1,727	1,922	1,786	1.18	3.38	5.40	21.87	21.63	2.65
Beulah	66	38		2,176	2,554		1.09	2.48	3.66	23.78		
Lake City	65	34		2,060	2,373		1.95	3.87	4.83	26.17		
Old Mission	67	37		2,063	2,439		1.19	2.46	3.79	18.93		
Pellston	66	34		1,928	2,250		1.59	2.89	4.15	19.43		
Northwest	67	32	4	2,006	2,337	2,341	1.20	2.60	3.76	20.11	20.92	2.69
Alpena	67	30		2,050	2,361		1.24	2.90	3.94	26.61		
Houghton Lake	65	37		2,075	2,419		1.54	3.25	4.03	23.33		
Rogers City	66	32		2,001	2,326		1.34	3.02	5.42	29.03		
Northeast	67	29	3	2,035	2,353	2,261	1.50	2.97	4.13	24.87	20.42	2.57
Fremont	66	36		2,388	2,650		2.55	4.55	5.40	24.18		
Hart	65	36		2,248	2,539		1.65	2.84	3.50	22.65		
Muskegon	67	41		2,607	2,713		2.17	4.43	5.23	23.06		
West Central	67	28	4	2,370	2,598	2,562	2.26	4.18	4.82	23.61	21.14	2.88
Alma	66	39		2,446	2,759		3.06	4.60	5.72	26.40		
Big Rapids	66	35		2,267	2,614		3.98	5.93	6.89	28.20		
Central	66	35	5	2,358	2,672	2,649	2.94	4.22	5.09	24.59	21.61	2.49
Bad Axe	69	34		2,298	2,655		0.68	1.35	2.45	20.62		
Pigeon	69	34		2,268	2,564		1.57	2.57	3.59	22.03		
Saginaw	69	37		2,528	2,848		1.99	2.88	3.67	21.19		
Standish	66	30		2,234	2,510		1.87	3.33	4.25	22.15		
East Central	69	30	5	2,292	2,670	2,664	1.55	2.52	3.54	22.37	19.29	2.23
Fennville	67	34		2,479	2,739		3.20	5.58	6.70	28.98		
Grand Rapids	67	41		2,753	3,079		2.96	5.61	6.84	30.36		
Holland	68	42		2,869	3,111		2.73	6.71	7.71	43.25		
South Bend, IN	67	34		2,913	3,209		1.47	3.11	4.12	27.92		
Watervliet	66	34		2,684	2,939		2.34	4.25	5.21	26.35		
Southwest	68	31	4	2,699	2,960	2,920	2.35	4.40	5.33	27.84	22.61	2.79
Belding	66	32		2,408	2,722		2.56	4.85	5.86	26.37		
Coldwater	68	32		2,794	2,972		0.79	1.24	2.24	22.14		
Lansing	69	39		2,600	2,947		1.22	2.73	3.57	29.05		
South Central	69	32	4	2,549	2,879	2,864	1.44	2.93	3.95	25.93	21.54	2.32
Detroit	74	40		3,015	3,285		0.45	1.46	2.48	23.19		
Flint	69	38		2,558	2,985		1.02	2.17	2.92	26.67		
Romeo	71	33		2,577	2,837		0.98	2.23	3.14	23.20		
Tipton	69	38		2,672	2,976		0.85	2.13	3.14	24.91		
Toledo, OH	75	31		2,998	3,268		0.49	1.33	2.69	24.69		
Southeast	75	28	5	2,692	3,043	2,861	0.74	1.76	2.73	22.74	20.49	2.44

[1] Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

[2] Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.

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